

Serial No. 09/196,029

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

16. (Original) An apparatus for enclosing an air bag on a steering wheel of a vehicle having a horn, said apparatus comprising:

191 a cover wall having a tear seam along which said cover wall ruptures in response to inflation of the air bag to enable deployment of the air bag; and

a horn switch including first and second overlying layers of electrically conductive material, said first layer including a first portion with a first tear line aligned with said tear seam in said cover wall, said second layer including a second portion which is spaced apart from said first portion and which has a second tear line aligned with said tear seam in said cover wall, said second tear line being spaced apart from said first tear line along a line extending along said first and second tear lines, said horn switch being rupturable

Serial No. 09/196,029

along said first and second tear lines upon inflation of the air bag.

191 17. (Amended) An apparatus for enclosing an air bag on a steering wheel of a vehicle having a horn, said apparatus comprising:

a cover wall having a tear seam along which said cover wall ruptures in response to inflation of the air bag to enable deployment of the air bag; and

a horn switch including first and second overlying layers of electrically conductive material, said first layer including a first portion with a first tear line aligned with said tear seam in said cover wall, said second layer including a second portion which is spaced apart from said first portion and which has a second tear line aligned with said tear seam in said cover wall, said second tear line being spaced apart from said first tear line along a line extending along said first and second tear lines, said horn switch being rupturable along said first and second tear lines upon inflation of the air bag,

Serial No. 09/196,029

said first and second tear lines having a combined length less than the length of said tear seam in said cover wall.

18. (Amended) An apparatus for enclosing an air bag on a steering wheel of a vehicle having a horn, said apparatus comprising:

a cover wall having a tear seam along which said cover wall ruptures in response to inflation of the air bag to enable deployment of the air bag; and

a horn switch including first and second overlying layers of electrically conductive material, said first layer including a first portion with a first tear line aligned with said tear seam in said cover wall, said second layer including a second portion which is spaced apart from said first portion and which has a second tear line aligned with said tear seam in said cover wall, said second tear line being spaced apart from said first tear line along a line extending along said first and second tear lines, said horn switch being rupturable

Serial No. 09/196,029

along said first and second tear lines upon inflation of the
air bag,

BN

said horn switch including an envelope of
electrically insulating material extending around said first
and second layers of electrically conductive material, said
envelope including a first portion extending around said first
portion of said first layer and including a second portion
which is spaced from said first portion and which extends
around said second portion of said second layer.
